Ms. Maureen McCrea  
Alaska Office of Management and Budget  
Division of Governmental Coordination  
240 Main St Ste 500  
Juneau, AK 99811-0030

Dear Ms. McCrea:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA's) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The GMD System is designed to intercept long-range ballistic missiles during the midcourse (ballistic) segment of their flight, before their reentry into the earth's atmosphere. MDA completed the National Missile Defense Deployment Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in July 2000 to support a future deployment decision. However, a decision to deploy the system has not yet been made. Following reviews directed by the Bush Administration, MDA re-focused the GMD from near term deployment to an effort that would provide operationally realistic testing. The GMD VOC EA, completed in March 2002, analyzed activities necessary to test the interoperability of GMD elements and components in a realistic environment and to validate GMD deployment concept activities. These activities included establishing and maintaining a ground-based interceptor test site and supporting facilities at Fort Greely, AK. There is no present intent to test fire interceptor missiles from Fort Greely.

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c. Modifications to activities at Allen Army Airfield including a change from Class E to Class D controlled airspace, on-site FAA controllers, and siting of a small radar.

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Please review this information and provide comments no later than November 8, 2002 to Commander, U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, ATTN: SMDC-EN-V (Mr. Kenneth Sims), P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801, by facsimile 256-955-5074, or by e-mail to kenneth.sims@smdc.army.mil.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
Mr. William D. McGee  
Regional Environmental Supervisor  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
610 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Dear Mr. McGee:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASDMC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
GMW

Mr. Ervin McIntosh, Field Supervisor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Service/Fairbanks  
101-12th Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 997011-6267

Dear Mr. McIntosh:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA's) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
GMW

Mr. Leo Morgan
Executive Director
Alaska Native Health Board
4201 Tudor Centre Drive #105
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Mr. Morgan:

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
Mr. Dick Mylius  
Division of Mining, Land and Water  
Department of Natural Resources  
550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1070  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3579

Dear Mr. Mylius:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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October 8, 2002
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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
Mr. Ross Oliver  
Ms. Hillary Schaefer  
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company  
1835 South Bragaw Street  
Pump Station 09  
Anchorage, AK 99512

Dear Mr. Oliver/Ms. Schaefer:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMD), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
We at Alyeska Pump Station 9 have reviewed the Supplemental Environmental Assessment regarding the construction of security fences, among other items around the new National Missile Defense Site.

We have had some discussion on this and basically find no problem with the proposed fencing paralleling our right of way. One possible issue which we discussed would be in the event that we needed to dig up our pipe in this area. Sometimes a temporary land use permit from the adjacent land owner is required because of the large size of the excavation limits needed to access our buried pipe. There is a remote possibility that in this event we would need to coordinate with the Army in this area to temporarily take down the fence in a limited local area and erect temporary fencing which would allow the required access for heavy equipment to excavate our pipe. Since the pipe is shallow burial in this area we feel that we can probably perform the required excavations without disturbing the proposed fence, although this possibility does exist.

Therefore, the bottom line is we feel that this fence would have no impact on our operation although there is a remote possibility of some coordinated effort in the future to work with the Army to temporarily accommodate a pipe excavation. Does this sound like something that could be accommodated if need be?

Thank you very much,
Ross Oliver
Ken:

Thank you for your note below and your recent efforts to coordinate with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company on the subject matter. On behalf of its owner companies, this email response indicates Alyeska's concurrence with your proposal to construct a fence as described in the Supplemental Environmental Assessment of 10/9/02 which will be situated parallel to and easterly of and setback approximately twelve (12) feet from the easterly TAPS right-of-way boundary at the referenced location.

This concurrence, which includes the performance of brushing as needed by USDOD within the easterly portion of the TAPS right-of-way, is subject to:

1. USDOD's agreement to coordinate "in-TAPS-ROW" brushing with the TAPS Pump Station 9 Maintenance Coordinator, and

2. Alyeska's right, as needed and with case-by-case USDOD and USBLM permission, to temporarily relocate portions of the fence in order to conduct TAPS excavations necessary for maintenance of the buried pipeline.

Please call me if you have any questions on this important matter.

Peter Nagel, SR/WA
Land and Right-of-Way
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, Agent
Mr. Alvin G. Ott  
Regional Supervisor  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Region III  
Habitat Protection Division  
1300 College Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599

Dear Mr. Ott:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
Dear Mr. Sims:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Habitat and Restoration Division (Fairbanks, AK) and Wildlife Conservation Division (Delta Junction, AK) have reviewed the Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Validation of Operational Concept at Fort Greely, AK and have the following comments:

Page 2-13, Lines 11-15. Depending on the type and placement of the platforms constructed for the approach lights in or over Jarvis Creek, a Fish Habitat Permit (A.S. 16.05.840) may be required from the ADF&G. Jarvis Creek is known to support resident fish (e.g., Arctic grayling) so fish passage up and downstream must be maintained at all water levels.

Page 3-9, Lines 30-31. Other big game species possibly occurring within the Fort Greely area includes black bear, grizzly bear, and wolf. These species are listed as predators (Page 3-11, Lines 1-2), but are considered big game by ADF&G regulations, which has economic implications in addition to wildlife implications.

Page 3-9, Lines 36-37. The actual 2001 moose population estimate for Unit 20D is 4,956-6,704 rather than the estimate of 9,012-14,082 listed in text. The discrepancy occurs due to variations in habitat quality and thus density of moose, with Ft. Greely having higher than average quality and densities.

Page 3-11, Lines 2-3. Lynx and wolf should also be added to the list of species trapped for fur.

Page 3-11, Line 3-5. The implication is that most of the Ft. Greely area is "developed" and thus has low wildlife importance. In fact, much of the developed area still provides habitat for a wide variety of species other than those species listed, including resident moose.

Page 4-7, Line 20-21. I concur that removing large mammals from the fenced area will be important and will take a coordinated effort between ADF&G and the US Army. The Army should be prepared to provide potentially large numbers of personnel and equipment to herd animals from the enclosures before they are permanently closed.

Page 4-9, Lines 29-34. I agree that the proposed action will have little impact on the overall moose population in the area. However, the loss of habitat can be mitigated by rejuvenating habitat near Ft. Greely. The area to be fenced is approximately 3,521 acres. If 1/3 of the area is moose habitat (~1,173 acres), this loss of habitat could be mitigated by hydro-axing comparable acres in the 1987 Granite Creek burn along 33-mile Loop Road. Moose habitat quality in this burn is starting to decline in
quality.

If you have any questions regarding the comments above, please call me at 907-459-7287 or Steve Dubois at 907-895-4484.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Nancy Ihlenfeldt

Habitat Biologist

ADF&G
Mr. Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Regional Office  
709 West 9th  
Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Dear Mr. Pennoyer:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDM), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
Mr. Sims,

As a representative of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), I have reviewed the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment. The proposed construction will have no impact on anadromous fish streams or Essential Fish Habitat. Consequently, the NMFS has no comment on this proposed project. Please feel free to contact me if you need further clarification. Thank you.
Ms. Mary Siroky  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
410 Willoughby  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Ms. Siroky:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMD), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation Worldwide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:

As stated
Mr. John Stone  
Chief, Alaska Department of  
    Environmental Conservation  
Division of Air and Water Quality  
Air Quality Maintenance Section  
610 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-1795

Dear Mr. Stone:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA’s) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
Mr. Lance Trasky  
Division of Habitat and Restoration  
Southcentral Regional Supervisor  
333 Raspberry Rd.  
Anchorage, AK  99518-1599

Dear Mr. Trasky:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, the U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC), on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA's) Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Joint Program Office (JPO), is preparing the GMD Validation of Operational Concept (VOC) Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
GMW

October 8, 2002

U.S. Department of Interior
Alaska Maritime National Wildlife
Refuge
2355 Kachemak Bay Drive, Suite 101
Homer, AK 99603

To Whom It May Concern:

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Sincerely,


STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:

As stated
Ms. Nancy Welch, Regional Manager
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Land and Water Management
Northern Regional Office
3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699

Dear Ms. Welch:

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If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Sims at 256-955-1113.

Sincerely,

STEVE DAVIS  
Colônel, U.S. Army  
Director, Site Activation World Wide  
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:  
As stated
Mr. Curt Wilson  
U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
222 West Seventh Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Dear Mr. Wilson:

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STEVE DAVIS
Colonel, U.S. Army
Director, Site Activation World Wide
Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

Enclosure:
As stated
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY
GROUND-BASED MIDCOURSE DEFENSE
JOINT PROGRAM OFFICE
P.O. Box 1500
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

GMW

October 8, 2002

Mr. Everett Robinson Wilson
U.S. Fish and Wildlfe Service
Aleutian Ecological Services, Region 7
1101 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. Wilson:

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